



THE PELICAN

JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2005 ❖ NEWSLETTER OF GREAT SALT LAKE AUDUBON

www.greatsaltlakeaudubon.org

Invaders of Great Salt Lake's South Shore Preserve

By Ella Sorensen

(Part two of a three part series on the invading plants at National Audubon Society's Gillmor Sanctuary.)

Pulling weeds is a part of my heritage. My father grew up on a family farm in West Layton and continued his agricultural roots on a two-acre fruit orchard in the foothills of North Salt Lake. The task of weeding where the plow could not go, among the peach, cherry, and apple trees, along ditches and in the flower garden fell to my siblings and me. I grew up making a hands-on acquaintance with June (cheat grass), common mallow, and Western salsify.

Not all weeds were created equal in my father's eyes. Two were especially onerous. Puncturevine introduced long ago from Europe spread its stems up to 5 feet long matted and flat across our property. The plants themselves were not problems, it was their produce we found loathsome. Small yellow flowers turned into hard spiny tack-like structures that lay in wait to puncture bare-footed children and bike tires. We

regularly sat feet elevated as my mother needle-probed out the embedded broken tip. My father once offered a penny a plant for each one we plucked before it produced its hundreds of seeds. We told him he couldn't afford it, but we were just being lazy.

We told him he couldn't afford it, but we were just being lazy.

My father's second most hated plant was morning glory a bane of many gardeners, agriculturists, and land managers today. Field Bindweed as it is commonly called is a perennial introduced from Europe. It produces an extensive root

system with a taproot that can extend 10 feet into the ground. The flowers are about an inch in size, shaped like a trumpet, and are white or pinkish. It is extremely adaptable to different environments and climbs anything forming thick tangled mats. Once I bought a packet of seeds for a larger purple and magenta version of morning glory and

planted them in the flower garden. It wasn't until the next year when they had jumped the flower garden boundaries and invaded the orchard climbing up the fruit trees that my father took notice. After waging an all out war of extermination lasting years he eventually successfully eradicated them from the property. During his battles, he could be heard mumbling under his breath questioning how he could have hatched an offspring that would intentionally plant a version of the dreaded



Scotch Thistle
Photos by Steve Dewey,
Utah State University



Russian Knapweed



Dalmatian Toadflax

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THE PELICAN

NEWSLETTER OF GREAT SALT LAKE AUDUBON

Mission Statement: Great Salt Lake Audubon is dedicated to protecting and enhancing habitat for wild plants and animals, particularly birds, and to maintaining healthy and diverse environments for wildlife and people throughout the state.

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morning glory. He recently passed away. Puncturevine and field bindweed thrive on the property he left behind.

Referring to a plant as a weed is a human judgmental call that relies on context. A weed is a plant that is not in harmony with a land's management objectives or desired land use. Weeds can be harmful or poisonous, compete with native plants, agricultural crops, gardens and lawns or just not be wanted where it is growing.

To be an official noxious weed requires a designation. The State of Utah Department of Agriculture and Food's Utah Noxious Weed List begins with the following paragraph:

The following weeds are officially designated and published as noxious for the State of Utah, as per the authority vested in the Commissioner of Agriculture under Section 4-17-3, Utah Noxious Weed Act.

The definition of "Noxious Weed" in the Utah Noxious Weed Act is: *any plant the commissioner determines to be especially injurious to public health, crops, livestock, land or other property.*

Nineteen plants in Utah have currently made the list. Field Bindweed (morning glory) is one. Puncturevine is a County Declared Noxious Weed in Cache and Weber Counties.

As mentioned in the last newsletter, National Audubon will be conducting a survey for certain noxious weeds that have started taking hold on the South Shore Preserve which includes over 2000 acres. This includes the Gillmor Sanctuary and Utah Reclamation Mitigation Conservation Property. Three of the target species Dalmatian toadflax, Russian Knapweed, and Scotch Thistle are either on the Utah Noxious Weed List or a County Noxious Weed. They are highly invasive species that out compete the upland desirable plants of the saline plains that surround preserves wetlands. Each of these invading species are threatening to take over large areas

Dalmatian Toadflax: I first started seeing it on a large adjacent land tract where I was professionally conducting bird surveys. Here and there, scattered across the dull landscape, I would discover a single plant or two. It grew about 3 feet tall with columns of bright yellow flowers that looked like snapdragons. I loved seeing this beautiful, colorful contrast. About two years ago I was informed of the plants highly invasive nature, its ability to out compete many of the native plants desired on the Preserve. Dalmatian Toadflax is native to Europe and introduced as an ornamental flower. I soon discovered that it is becoming a serious invader along the oolitic sand dune that runs adjacent to Great Salt Lake and along some of the roadways. An

extensive deep root system and leaves protected by a waxy substance make this invader a very difficult plant to control.

Russian Knapweed: Many years ago when Dr. Ty Harrison an expert on plants of Great Salt Lake visited the adjacent area where I conducted bird surveys, he looked out the car window and asked if I knew there was Russian Knapweed. I have learned as I have watched the devastation this hardy plant has caused as it has taken over huge areas of uplands. Russian Knapweed is native to Eurasia. A chemical substance released by the plant reduces other plants ability to compete giving an edge to the Knapweed. It grows one to three feet tall in clones or thick colonies. The small flower is pinkish purple. It is on the Utah State Noxious Weed List. Knapweed is just starting to spring up in isolated spots and it is urgent to determine the full extent of locations so control methods can be implemented.

Scotch Thistle: Scotch Thistle is a member of the sunflower family. It is a biennial plant that has reached over six feet tall along the roadways of the preserve. Other areas have recorded growths of 12 feet. It is native to Europe and Asia. The showy flowers are pinkish purple. Both leaves and flowers are spiny and prickly. Invasion is thought to be limited on the preserve. It is most easily controlled in the rosette stage and an active eradication program for the preserve is anticipated to be triumphant, if only temporarily won.

I'm meeting with experts on noxious weeds and ecologically friendly methods of control and survey. The next article (Part 3 in the March/April newsletter) will give details and will be a call for volunteers in late spring and early summer to help survey the South Shore Preserve.

Thank You for Your Support

Great Salt Lake Audubon enthusiastically thanks the following donors to our November silent auction and dinner fundraiser: Anonymous, Backyard Birds, Bill Gray, Cactus & Tropicals, Clear Channel Entertainment, Cucina—a gourmet deli, Dancing Crane Studios and Gary Crandall, Debbie Goodman, Dragonfly Creations and Michelle Staley, Em's Restaurant, Farmington Bay WMA and Justin Dolling, Gastronomy, Grand America Hotel, Great Salt Lake Adventures—Kayaking, Habitats for Winged Things and Geoff Hardies, Happy Horse Ranch and Rhonda Devereaux, Johnson Mill Bed & Breakfast, Metro Day Spa, Porcupine Pub & Grille, REI, Snowbird Ski and Summer Resort, Squatters Pub Brewery, The Dodo Restaurant, The Nature Conservancy, Uinta Brewery, Westwings, Wild Bird Center-

Layton and Bill Fenimore and Wild Bird Center-SLC and Owen Hogle.

Field Trip Leaders Needed

We would like to invite more people to become involved. You don't need to be an expert. On field trips we all help each other. What you do need is to be able to give directions to a particular site, keep a record of people present, keep track of birds seen and turn the records in to Deedee O'Brien or Sylvia Gray. We can suggest places that have been good birding spots in the past or you may choose a favorite of your own. Because of publishing deadlines we have to have field trips confirmed at least two months ahead. Call Sylvia (532-3486) to volunteer. You'll be glad you did. Thanks.

Volunteer of the Year 2004

By Deedee O'Brien

The November GSLA fundraising dinner was the setting for Nathan Darnall's announcement that June Ryburn is GSLA's Volunteer of the Year. All cheered in wholehearted agreement.

June's contributions to GSLA and its mission go back to when she first joined in 1986 or '87. At that time she got hooked on field trips, attended Board meetings, and offered to help where needed. That volunteer effort has only increased over time. She has worked on habitat restoration projects in the Devil's Slide area and currently along the Jordan River. She took charge of the Birdseed Sale Fundraiser for 10 years, served on the Board of Directors and as Board secretary. She spearheads GSLA work days at Fish Springs NWR each year, and leads other birding field trips as well.

For years June has provided information about GSLA to the general public by keeping our voice message line up-to-date with current events and by setting up a table or booth at street fairs, Home and Garden shows, bird festivals and nonprofit organization events. Now she organizes other volunteers to help her. For as long as anyone can remember she has taken responsibility for preparing the bulk mailing of our newsletter, and actually carrying those 1500+ newslet-



PHOTO BY JEFF SALT

June Ryburn

ters to the post office. She also drives around the city to distribute extra copies to public libraries and other outlets.

June's dedication to GSLA's mission has led her to many volunteer hours in support of DWR's Watchable Wildlife program and the Great Salt Lake Waterbird Survey. Her 15 seconds of fame, as she calls it, occurred this past year when she was quoted in the New York Times article about the peregrines nesting in downtown Salt Lake City. In the midst of the week or more she spent monitoring the young fledglings with other volunteers and DWR's Bob Walters, a reporter asked what a volunteer's job was. June responded, "throw ourselves in front of traffic" [to protect fallen fledglings]. And June would do that.

GSLA's Monthly Programs

By Rhonda Devereaux

Join us **Jan. 18, 2005** to hear about **Bald Eagles and Farmington Bay** from Bob Walters. Where do the bald eagles come from and why do they come here in the winter? Our speaker, Bob Walters, has worked at the Division of Wildlife Resources for over 25 years. He has been the program coordinator for the Watchable Wildlife program for over 10 years and is the man that heads the monitoring of nesting Peregrines in downtown Salt Lake City as well as the nesting Bald Eagles along the Jordan River. If watchable wildlife is involved, you can be sure that Bob is too! See the current calendar of events at www.wildlife.utah.gov (go to outreach, then watchable wildlife).

Join us **Feb. 15** to hear about **Local Wintering Ducks and their Plumage** from Pat Kelly of the Ambassador Duck Club. Have you ever wondered why it is that kids need to stand out amongst their peers with outlandish looks? Maybe they're not alone! Come see a close up look of the wintering ducks we have right here in Utah. Our speaker, Pat Kelly, is a long time member of Great Salt Lake Audubon as well as the Ambassador Duck Club. Pat has been a duck hunter since the age of 12 and a birder since the age of reason. Pat spends a great deal of time working on the upkeep of the property and promoting the importance and value of wetlands. Also Maunsel Pearce will bring a selection of duck decoys from his collection to display. He will be available to answer questions before and after the program. These decoys were made in the early 1900's and have an interesting history of their own.

GSLA's monthly program is held at the Sugarhouse Garden Center, NE corner of Sugarhouse Park (enter from 2100 South, just west of Highland High). Doors

open at 6:45 p.m. The meeting runs from 7:15 to 8:30 p.m. Everyone is invited to join us (membership is not required) for refreshments and socializing. Kids are welcome.

President's Column

By Nathan Darnall, President

Recently, I spoke with an individual who longed to see the many bird species of the Pacific Northwest here in the Salt Lake valley. He suggested Great Salt Lake Audubon plant berry bushes and fruit trees along the Jordan River to attract birds.

I explained as best I could the differences in the avian communities and how the habitats, climate, and even the geographic features distinguish the two areas. I suspect that even if Audubon planted the riparian corridors full of berry bushes and fruit trees, we still couldn't entice the birds from Washington or Oregon to pay us a visit.

However, I do agree that landscaping for birds can be very beneficial. In my previous column (Nov/Dec 04) I discussed the idea that you can make a difference, and I believe it is true. One of the ways you can personally make a difference is to take conservation action right in your own back yard. For instance, you can reduce the amount of pesticides and fertilizers used on your lawn and landscaping; you can remove exotic or nonnative plant species and replace them with native plants—especially those preferred by birds; and you can conserve water. Really, it only takes a few steps to create a bird friendly yard, and there is plenty of information and resources available to you.

Also pass the word along. Your individual action, coupled with the action of others will collectively have an even greater impact. And if you're so inclined, I encourage you to begin planning and preparing for your spring landscaping projects now.

Concerning the Jordan River corridor, Great Salt Lake Audubon has been planting native vegetation (e.g., willow, boxelder, rose, currant, etc.) with the goal of restoring habitat for some of our migratory birds such as the willow flycatcher and yellow-breasted chat, among many others. The project is ongoing, and we could always use your help, so give us a call or send us an e-mail.



Nathan Darnall, President

Great Salt Lake Audubon Field Trips for January /February 2005

By Sylvia Gray, Field Trip Coordinator

This year we will again be offering a monthly field trip called HOTSPOTS. On these trips we will go to wherever interesting birds have recently been reported. So bring food and drinks and come prepared for any type of weather because you never know where we will end up! Call the leader for details.

Also we will keep a record of all bird species seen on our field trips throughout the year so leaders need to get the bird sightings to Sylvia Gray (532-3486). These will be published periodically in the Pelican.

Field trips are planned well in advance. Occasionally we have to cancel a trip or change a times or location. We recommend you confirm details with each trip leader. Beginning birders are always welcome on Audubon field trips.

Saturday, January 1, 7 a.m.

Audubon Christmas Bird Count II, Jordan River in Salt Lake and Utah Counties

Leaders: Jeanne Le Ber and Ray Smith

Start the New Year right. We need leaders and followers, experts and novices. There is a \$5.00 participant fee to cover the cost of contributing to the National Audubon Christmas Bird Count databank. Meet at Johanna's Kitchen (9725 South State Street, 801-566-1762) for breakfast at 7:00 a.m. Assignments will be distributed, and groups will start birding at 8:00 a.m. At the end of the day we will gather for a group report and final species tally at Sizzler (20 West 9000 South, 801-566-8021). To sign up, or for more information, call Jeanne Le Ber or Ray Smith at 801-532-7384, evenings.

Wednesday, January 5, 9 a.m.

Mountain Dell Recreation Area, Parley's Canyon

Leaders: Jack Clark and Sylvia Gray

We are not sure what the weather will be like, so come prepared. We'll be walking a more restricted area. Snow boots or snowshoes recommended. Meet at 9 am in the SE corner of the ShopKo parking lot in Sugarhouse for a morning of birding. Call Jack (255-7989) or Sylvia (532-3486) if you plan to attend, and for an update on weather conditions.

Wednesday, January 12, 9 a.m. (leave Salt Lake by 8 a.m.)

Wasatch Audubon Trip

Leader: Mort Somer

We have been invited to join the Ogden group for their weekly trip. Call Deedee O'Brien (272-8060) to arrange car-pooling.

Wednesday, January 19, 9 a.m.

HOTSPOTS

Leaders: Deedee O'Brien and Sylvia Gray

Meet at 9:00 am in the SE corner of the ShopKo parking lot in Sugarhouse for an exciting day of we don't know what! Please call Deedee (272-8060) or Sylvia (532-3486) if you plan to attend.

Saturday, January 22, 8:45 a.m.

Raptor Workshop/Field Trip and Chili Social

Leader: Jeff Smith, HawkWatch International

HWI's Science Director will lead the field trip. Departing the HWI office in Salt Lake City at 9 am, we will proceed toward Tooele on Hwy 36, loop out toward Grantsville on Erda Road and then back to Tooele via Hwy 112, watching raptors from the road. We'll spend an hour in Tooele for our potluck Chili Party and a brief presentation on raptor ID, and then continue the field trip heading south on Hwy 36 past Rush Lake to Hwy 73, over Fivemile Pass to the Fairfield Bald Eagle roost, and then back to Salt Lake via Lehi. Typically 10-13 species of raptors are seen. Bring a batch of chili and admission is free. The best chili will win a prize! No chili? Then pay a \$10 donation. Stay tuned to the HWI web site (www.hawkwatch.org) for more details, and RSVP (801.484.6808).

Wednesday, January 26, 9 a.m.

Farmington Bay and Nearby Area

Leader: Bob Huntington and Deedee O'Brien

Join us for our monthly half-day visit to Farmington Bay. We will be going "behind-the-gates" once again! This is excellent winter gull and Bald Eagle time. Wasatch Audubon will be joining us. Meet inside the McDonald's just north of the Centerville exit from I-15 at 8:30 am for breakfast and camaraderie or 9 am to head out. Bring your own water and snacks. Call Deedee O'Brien (801-272-8060) if you plan to attend.

Friday, January 28 – Sunday, January 30

St. George Winter Bird Festival

The festival includes workshops, presentations, bird walks, social time and book/gear sales. Field trips on Saturday will go to Cedar Valley, Hurricane Valley, and Lytle Ranch. In the evening there will be a banquet with Mike Small, biologist from BLM as the keynote speaker. His topic is "Lessons Learned from Reintroducing the California Condors". Cost of the banquet is \$20. The following day the field trip is to the Vermilion Cliffs in Arizona to view the Condors. Contact Sylvia Gray at (532-3486) for registration packets or in St. George, Charlie Sheard (435-879-2210) mcsheard@redrock.net

Saturday, February 5, 10 a.m.

Bald Eagle Day at Farmington Bay

Leaders: Jeanne Le Ber and Ray Smith

The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources hosts their annual Bald Eagle Day. Meet in the SE of the ShopKo parking lot in Sugarhouse at 10 am to carpool. Call Jeanne or Ray at 801-532-7384 for details. You'll be glad you did.

Wednesday, February 9, 9 a.m.

Wasatch Audubon Trip

Bird walk in Pineview area. Call Kathy Coleman (944-5773) to arrange car-pooling.

Wednesday, February 16, 9 a.m.

HOTSPOTS

Leader: Jim Bailey

Meet at 9 am in the SE corner of the ShopKo parking lot in Sugarhouse for an exciting day of we don't know what! Please call Jim (274-8034) if you plan to attend.

Saturday, February 19, 8 a.m.

Urban Parks

Leader: Nathan Darnall

We'll look for waterfowl at Decker Lake, and woodpeckers, nuthatches and more at Liberty Park. If time allows we will visit other sites as well. Meet Nathan at 8 am in the SE corner of the ShopKo parking lot in Sugarhouse. Call him at (755-4480) if you have questions or to let him know you'll be there.

Wednesday, February 23, 8:30 a.m.

Farmington Bay and Nearby Area

Leader: Bob Huntington

Join us for our monthly half-day visit to Farmington Bay. Meet inside the McDonald's just north of the Centerville exit from I-15 at 8:30 am for breakfast or 9 am to head out. Bring your own water and snacks. Call Bob at (801-595-8748) if you plan to attend.

Sunday, February 27, 1 – 5 p.m.

Ambassador Duck Club

Leader: Pat Kelly

Pat is the featured speaker at our monthly meeting in February, so come and hear him talk about the birds seen at the duck club and then come and see the real thing. Limit 12 people. This is a "behind the gates" opportunity. If you are interested you need to be able to stay for the whole time as the gates will be locked. Contact June Ryburn (801-576-0103) to sign up.

Saturday, March 5, 8 a.m.

Snow Goose Festival

Leaders: Jeanne Le Ber and Ray Smith

Meet in the SE corner of the ShopKo parking lot in Sugarhouse at 8:00 am. We will carpool to the Gunnison Bend Reservoir near Delta, about a 2 1/2-hour drive. When they "co-operate" about 20,000 Snow Geese can be seen on the water or in adjacent fields. The town of Delta hosts an Art and Craft Fair with guest speakers in the Millard County Fair Building. Call Jeanne or Ray at (801-532-7384) if you are interested.

Salt Lake Birders Field Trips

For questions on Salt Lake Birders field trips call Bob MacDougal at 801-971-6077. There is a field trip planned for January 22. We'll bird the Salt Lake Cemetery and Liberty Park with a break for breakfast at a local restaurant between stops. Meet at the Sugarhouse ShopKo at 8:00 a.m. Dress for the weather and bring something to drink.

Layton Wild Bird Center Walks

By Bill Fenimore, Wild Bird Center, Layton

Join us for free nature/bird walks. We meet at the Wild Bird Center and depart the store at 10 a.m. Dress for the weather and bring binoculars (loaners are available). Bring the whole family. Call 801-525-8400. The Wild Bird Center is located at the Layton Market Center, exit 335 off I-15 (across from Barnes & Noble), 1860 North 1000 West, Layton. January bird walks include January 8 USU Botanical Extension Garden and Kaysville Pond, January 15 Kays Creek Parkway, January 22 Farmington Bay Waterfowl Management Area and January 29 Area Ogden Nature Center.



Hooded Mergansers and friends.

PHOTO BY NATHAN DARNALL

Seen on 2004 Field Trips: 204!

By Sylvia Gray, Field Trip Coordinator

That's the number of species we have seen on our field trips this past year. It has been interesting keeping track. A group of 18 species have been seen every month. Besides the expected, like Starlings and House Finches, a little more surprising perhaps is that this group also includes Ruddy Ducks, Pied-billed Grebes, Song Sparrows and Meadowlarks. Hummingbirds, Swallows, Warblers and Flycatchers made up most of our summer visitors while Bald Eagles and Rough-legged Hawks are our winter visitors.

Then there were those special sightings, 38 in all, where only once during the year did we see particular species, birds like Plumbeous Vireo, American Redstart, Pinyon Jay, Pygmy Nuthatch, Hooded Merganser, Pacific Loon, Bittern, Snowy Plover, Sabine's Gull, Lewis's Woodpecker, Short-eared Owl and Three-toed Woodpecker, to name a few. I have our data graphed on a monthly basis so next time you are at one of our monthly programs I invite you to stop by and take a look. I think that you will find it interesting.

All these sightings would not have happened without the help of our field trip leaders. We had 69 field trips in 2004. I would particularly like to thank the following people for their time and willingness to lead these trips: Jim Bailey, Steve Carr, Jack Clark, Kathy Coleman, Nathan Darnall, Hugh Gillilan, Frank Howe, Bob Huntington, Jeanne Le Ber, Ed Leite, Russell Norvell, Deedee O'Brien, Kristen Purdy, June Ryburn, Ray Smith, and Merrill Webb. Thanks also to Mort Somer of Wasatch Audubon who has invited us to join some of their field trips.

Board Meeting Highlights

By Nathan Darnall,

In November 2004, the Board invited Lynn de Freitas from Friends of Great Salt Lake to speak about the organization; Lynn provided a history, current events, and opportunities for collaboration. The ad-hoc committee on staff presented draft recommendations for review. The Board agreed to not pursue an end-of-the-year plea (fundraiser) for this year, but will have one next year. The finishing touches were added to the gala.

In December 2004, Jeff McCreary from Ducks Unlimited (DU) presented a land-ownership opportunity to GSLA. DU may acquire land along the Jordan River, but needs a local organization to manage the land for wildlife. The Board recommended additional inquiry and discussion, and will make a decision at the January

2005 board meeting. The Board finalized Audubon Adventures funding for the 2004-2005 school year, and discussed minor changes to the program for next year. There were discussions on the newsletter, the gala, staffing needs, e-mail accounts, and Christmas Bird Counts. The Board gave approval to join a letter protesting a proposal by Western Waters LLC to take water out of the Jordan River. The Board believes the proposal would be detrimental to wildlife, the river, wetlands and the Great Salt Lake.

Wildlife and Utah Politics

By Debbie Goodman, Utah Audubon Council

In the last newsletter, I introduced the concept that interested citizens and conservation organizations can work with staff at the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR) on projects of mutual interest. Citizen involvement can include fieldwork such as habitat improvement, scientific work such as participating in Audubon's Christmas Bird Count or providing input on policies and programs through both formal and informal channels.

This article is an introduction to the state's legislative process, in preparation for the opening of the 2005 General Session on January 17. Here are ten basic facts about the Utah State Legislature that can help you monitor, understand and participate in the process.

First there are 29 senators and 75 representatives in the Utah State Legislature. If you don't know who yours are, keep reading.

Second, the Utah Legislature home page web address is www.le.utah.gov. This website has volumes of information such as contact information for legislators, daily calendars of meetings and the full listing and text of bills for current and past sessions. The best way to learn about it is to log on and spend some time reading and learning. During the session, this website even allows you to listen to floor debate live from your computer.

Third, the General Session usually begins on the Monday in January that coincides with the Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday, and runs for 45 days. During the rest of the year, Interim Committees and Task Forces typically meet 2 days per month. These meetings are announced in advance on the website listed above.

Fourth, the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel, located in the capitol building, sells a very helpful publication known as the Utah Legislative Directory. It costs around five dollars, and has pictures and brief biographies of each legislator. It also shows seating charts for both houses, lists a calendar of impor-

tant dates, lists the membership of all committees, and provides names and photographs of legislative staff. If you plan to visit the legislature in person, this book is a survival tool.

Fifth, there are two parallel processes occurring at the General Session. One is the introduction, debate, and passage of new legislation. The other is the development and passage of the state's budget for the upcoming fiscal year. Wildlife conservation and other environmental issues can therefore be affected by direct legislation, or by the appropriation of funding for those state agencies that oversee and implement such programs.

Sixth, legislators develop bills based on ideas from varied sources including constituents, government agencies, special interest groups, lobbyists, municipalities, and the Governor. The Office of Legislative Research drafts bills with General Counsel based on a bill request from the Legislator. The drafting attorney reviews existing laws and prepares the bill in proper technical form. The bill is assigned a number, and reviewed for fiscal, statutory, and constitutional concerns, which are attached in the form of a note.

Seventh, when a bill is introduced to the Legislature, it is referred to the Rules Committee for the House or Senate, depending on the sponsor. If the bill passes Rules Committee review and voting, it is forwarded to the appropriate Standing Committee. Wildlife and habitat related bills are most often referred to the House or Senate Natural Resources Committee (the full committee name is Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Environment.)

Eight, the standing committee reviews the bill in a public meeting where it receives public testimony. The committee may amend, hold, table, substitute, or make a favorable recommendation on the bill. If the bill is reported out favorably (with or without amendments), it is returned to the full house for floor debate, where it can be amended, substituted, held, or passed. Thirty-eight votes are required to pass a bill in the House, fifteen in the Senate.

Ninth, if passed, the bill then proceeds to the other house for committee review and so on. If the bill passes both houses, it is signed by the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate, and then sent back to Legislative Research and General Counsel to be "enrolled," which involves final formatting and forwarding to the Governor.

Tenth, the enrolled bill is sent to the Governor, who can sign, veto, or allow the bill to become law without his/her signature. Bills usually become effective 60 days following adjournment, unless a different date is specified.

GSLA Members Designated Honorary Craniacks

By Earle Bevins

Audubon Nebraska was the principal sponsor of the 2004 Gala in return for the support we gave Mike Forsberg and hosting him and Paul Tebbel. The following is from the letter addressed to chapter members that accompanied their check.

"Those of us who participate in the crane migration every year have coined the term 'craniacks' to indicate the yearly renewal that we get from the unbelievable spectacle of 500,000 cranes on the Platte River in March. We hereby designate all Great Salt Lake Audubon chapter members as honorary craniacks and invite you to visit us this spring and enjoy the sights and sounds of these ancient birds."

March Council Meeting in Delta

By Lynn Carroll

The Audubon Council of Utah meets in Delta on March 5-6 in conjunction with the Snow Goose Festival. The festival gets under way Friday the 4, so arrive then if you can. The Council activities will begin at noon on Saturday and continue until noon on Sunday. Plans tentatively include a noon potluck lunch at the fair-ground, then from 1:15-3:15 p.m. chapters will share what's new and hear about the legislative session from our lobbyist, and from 4 p.m. to dusk will be birding. Saturday evening includes dinner on your own and festival programming.

On Sunday morning either a light breakfast, followed by birding or from 10 am to noon will conclude the council meeting (over brunch at a restaurant?).

More information about the Snow Goose Festival, scheduled for February 25-26 and March 4-5 this year, will be found at www.millardcounty.com/sgf_attractions.html (currently the 2004 schedule is shown). Accommodations in Delta are also listed, including Best Western motel and RV parks. We recommend making reservations well ahead. Check the Wasatch Audubon website for more definite and complete information: www.wasatchaudubon.org. Call Lynn Carroll, 801-392-8216 with questions. Plan to join us for geese, fun and fellowship!

Support Your Local Chapter

Do you like cookies? Our monthly program is averaging over 60 people. Part of the fun is hanging out



PHOTO BY RHONDA DEVEREAUX

Girl Scouts making bird feeders at the November GSLA meeting.

Tom Orme, Steven Pelch, Johnny Player, Mary Schultz, Billee Skinner, A. Spencer, Audrey Sprung, Crystal Stephen, Susan Stern, Mr. & Mrs. Paul Veasy, J.K. Wallace, Janene Wallace, William Walsh, Alyssa Williams, Lorraine Williams, Karen Wright, Brook Jennings, Corliss Neuber, Robert Seawright, Lisa Arnette, Jeanne Bacigalupo, Yvonne Barsballe, J-Dee Birekland, Annie Bloom, Ellen Callister, Grover Carling, Nellyn Cox, Chris Davison, E.G. Perry, Richard Erikson, Jennifer Freed, Robert Freudenberger, Cheryl Funston, Jeff & Laura Gliedman, Ty Harrison, Susi Hauser, Jean Hendricksen, Debbie Hood, Ian Hudson, B. McMillen, Patricia Meekins, Kathryn Montgomer, Linda Murtaugh, Roger Pettit, Lorraine

and munching! I could use a couple of volunteers to make/bring cookies for the January and February meetings. If baking isn't your thing, help is always needed in setting up and cleaning up both before and after the meeting. In an effort to reduce waste, we are not using paper products during these meetings, which means a bit of dishwashing, If you're interested in helping out, drop me note at l.devereaux@comcast.net or call me at 328-4188. Every little bit counts! Please join in.

Another way to support GSLA is to shop the GSLA Specials Table at our monthly program and special events. Pick up Audubon calendars, Kim Rousch art prints, Gary Crandall cards, bookmarks, interesting books, and miscellaneous items.

Welcome to GSL Audubon

From Vivian Schneggenburger, Membership Chair

Thanks to all who have recently joined GSLA. We hope you will become an active member and join us at our General Meetings and on our field trips. The Pelican will have all of the details. We look forward to meeting you all.

New members joining or transferring through NAS: J.G. Bartholomew, Robert E. Black, Charles Coffill, Dale Covington, Kevin Downhour, Winford Failner, Maureen Gardner, Rosemary Gordon, Robert & Jane Hipley, Richard Jensen, Lisa Kalantzes, Dellory Matthews, Linda Matthews, Conan Norkus, Lillian &

Purdy, Daniel Salemi, Anna Shaw, Debbie Sherwin, Rodger Stirling, H. Thiese, Denise Thornhill, Amy Thorpe, Diane Turner, Lavon Thomas, Donna Vowell, Larry Walz, Alix Weiss, Lorraine Whitesides, Kyle Williams, Garald Yates, William Stacey, Kathy Baybo, Jeff Bram.

New or renewing members joining directly through our local chapter: Dan & Shiela Barnett, Fred Beckett, Teresa Crockett, Kimberly Davidson, Joan Degiorgio, Marsha Gale, Richard Gilbert, Debbie Goodman, Mary Gracia, Charles & Emily Hall, Dave Hanscom, Herman Lund, Calvin Nelson, Barbara Cox O'Connor, Amy Owen, Florence Shepard, Sue Smith, John & Peg Stanchfield, Bill Yates.

Three Ways to Join or Renew with Audubon

1. A new membership with National Audubon Society costs \$20; a renewal is \$35. Benefits include the quarterly national magazine and automatic membership in GSLA. Most of your dues support environmental campaigns at the national level.
2. A Great Salt Lake Audubon-only membership is \$25 a year; all dues support local education, advocacy, habitat restoration, field trips, news-letter publication, and more.
3. You can join both NAS and GSLA if you wish to support both national and local activities.

Regardless of membership, we welcome you to Audubon and hope to see you participate in our many activities.



THE PELICAN

Great Salt Lake Audubon
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Salt Lake City, UT 84152-0867

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GREAT SALT LAKE AUDUBON

(Local Membership Only)

Please enroll me as a member of GSLA, my membership fee of \$25.00 includes a 1-year subscription to The Pelican.

Please clip and send your application and check to:

**Great Salt Lake Audubon
P.O. Box 520867
Salt Lake City, UT 84152-0867**

Name _____

Street _____

City _____

State _____ ZIP+4 _____

Email _____

Phone _____ Today's Date _____

If an e-mail address is provided, look forward to receiving automated e-mail updates on classes and field trips offered by our chapter. Great Salt Lake Audubon does not share *any* of your information with any other organizations.

Thank You for Supporting GSLA!

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

Please enroll me as a member of National Audubon Society. Please send Audubon Magazine and my membership card to the address below.

_____ My check for \$20.00 is enclosed. (Introductory price only.)

_____ My check for \$35.00 is enclosed for membership renewal.

Please clip and send your application and check to:

**National Audubon Society
Chapter Membership Data Center
P.O. Box 51001
Boulder, CO 80322-1001**

Name _____

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State _____ ZIP+4 _____

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Local Chapter Code: 7XCHA